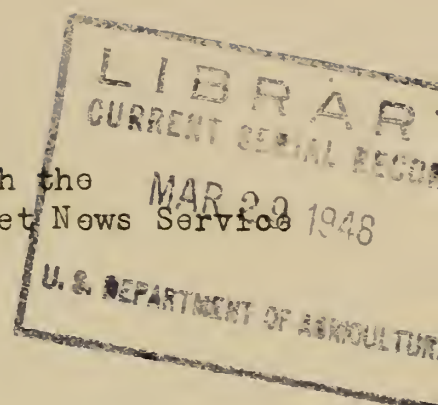


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
821 Market Street, Room 615
San Francisco 5, California

In cooperation with the
Federal-State Market News Service



WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending March 12, 1948)

SAN FRANCISCO, March 9 --- In the vegetable department this week, the "Best Buys" are cabbage at unchanged prices and celery on which prices have come down.

Lettuce, cauliflower, spinach and rhubarb are all classed as "Fair Buys" this week.

Supplies of asparagus are increasing and prices coming down every day.

Artichokes are down a little, but still high. Carrots are a little higher. There is no price change on tomatoes - practically all now on the market are Mexican. Squash and sweet potatoes remain high. There is no change on onions and potatoes.

"Best Buys" in fruits are apples, particularly Watsonville Newtowns, and the small sizes of oranges.

Grapefruit and Pears remain "Fair Buys".

MORE

Meat trading has been slow during the greater part of the week, and buying has been cautious. Prices on lamb have dropped \$2.00 to \$3.00, pork carcasses have advanced \$3.00; otherwise there has been little change. Beef supplies were very liberal during the week, and some coolers were reported as having rather heavy carryovers. The general supply of Good and Choice veal and calf carcasses moved out readily. Lamb supplies were very liberal for demands, and were made up largely of Good and Choice grades. Fresh pork daily slaughter increased slightly and demand was improved.

Butter prices continued to decline. Grade A butter (92 score) is currently quoted at 79 cents, down 2 cents from last week, and Grade B butter (90 score) is selling for 76 cents, 3 cents less than last week's price. Retail sales in San Francisco were almost 15 percent lower than sales for the previous week.

Egg prices for all grades remained unchanged during the week, although supplies are increasing. Top quality fresh receipts continued to clear without difficulty. The wholesale quotations are: Grade "A" Large 52-53 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per dozen, Mediums 50-51 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, Smalls 45-46 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, and Grade "B" Large 49-50 cents.

Poultry supplies were lighter, resulting in firmer prices for Broilers, Fryers, Roasters, Leghorn and Colored Fowl. Prices were generally 3 to 4 cents higher on young chickens and 1 to 2 cents higher on fowl.

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